

Message Text

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TAGS: EGEN, ENRG

SUBJ: PROF. MANDEL INTERVIEW ON ENERGY WITH

HANDELSBLATT

1. HANDELSBLATT (BUSINESS DAILY) OF APRIL 14-15 CARRIED AN INTERVIEW WITH PROF. HEINRICH MANDEL, BOARD CHAIRMAN OF RHEINISCH WESTPHALISCHE ELECTRICITATS WERKE (RWE), LARGEST POWER UTILITY IN THE FRG. THE ARTICLE SUMMARIZES MANDEL'S VIEWS OF THE WORLD ENERGY OUTLOOK. MANDEL, A WELL KNOWN FIGURE IN ENERGY CIRCLES, IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO NEXT MEET IN HAMBURG IN 1980.

2. MANDEL SAID THAT GOVERNMENT ENERGY POLICIES MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES: REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION OF OIL, PRESERVATION OF DOMESTIC
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PRIMARY ENERGY CAPACITY, AND DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, THE LATTER BEING PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT HAS A TWENTY-TO-ONE ADVANTAGE IN ENERGY OUTPUT OVER FOSSIL FUELS. HE ADDED, IT WAS UP TO INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES TO CONCENTRATE ON NUCLEAR ENERGY, BECAUSE THEY HAD THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY TO USE IT, WHILE LEAVING FOSSIL FUELS TO BE THE BASIS OF GROWTH IN

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES TO ACCELERATE ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES (THE ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE WORLD ENERGY CONFERENCE ESTIMATES THAT ENERGY SAVINGS OF UP TO 50 PER CENT COULD BE ACHIEVED WORLDWIDE BY 2020 IF ALL NATIONS CARRIED OUT ACTIVE PROGRAMS TO DO SO). HE FELT THIS WAS NECESSARY TO HELP AVOID TREMENDOUS COMPETITION AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD FOR DECLINING OIL RESERVES IN THE NEXT CENTURY.

3. HE CITED THE FOLLOWING STATISTICS: FIFTY-TWO PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION (AFRICA, ASIA, AUSTRALIA, AND SOUTH AMERICA) CONSUME THIRTEEN PERCENT OF ANNUAL PRIMARY ENERGY SUPPLY. ANOTHER THIRTY PERCENT (CHINA, USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE) CONSUME THIRTY PERCENT; NINE PERCENT (WESTERN EUROPE) CONSUME NINETEEN PERCENT OF ENERGY AND SIX PERCENT (USA AND CANADA) CONSUME THIRTY-TWO PERCENT OF ANNUAL ENERGY SUPPLY.

4. MANDEL SAID THAT THIS GREAT DISPARITY MUST CHANGE AND NOTED THAT THE PROCESS OF "DECOUPLING" (ENTKOPPELUNG) -- A DECLINING RATE OF GROWTH IN CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY PER UNIT OF INCREASE OF GNP-- WAS ALREADY EVOLVING IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. HE SAID UNCLASSIFIED

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LASTLY, THAT IN ORDER TO HAVE ECONOMIC GROWTH THERE MUST ALSO BE INCREASED CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY. INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, HE THOUGHT, COULD ACHIEVE GROWTH WITH RELATIVELY SMALLER INCREASES IN CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY THAN THEY NEEDED IN THE PAST, WHILE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES A DIFFERENT, MORE ENERGY-INTENSE PATTERN WAS PROBABLY REQUIRED. STOESEL

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